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HOUSE BILL 570

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

James G. Taylor

AN ACT

RELATING TO COURTS; CREATING AN ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIP IN THE  
BERNALILLO COUNTY METROPOLITAN COURT; AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE  
NMSA 1978; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 34-8A-4.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1981,  
Chapter 318, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read:

"34-8A-4.1. METROPOLITAN COURT JUDGES--TERMS OF OFFICE--  
ELECTION. --

A. The elected term of office for each judge of  
the metropolitan court is four years.

~~[B. Judges of the metropolitan court who have been  
previously elected in a partisan election or who were serving  
as metropolitan judges on January 1, 1989 in divisions one  
through twelve shall be subject to retention or rejection on a~~

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 ~~nonpartisan ballot at the 1990 general election for a four-~~  
2 ~~year term ending December 31, 1994.~~

3 ~~C.]~~ B. Any person appointed to fill a vacancy on  
4 the metropolitan court after January 1, 1989 shall serve until  
5 the next general election. That person's successor shall be  
6 chosen at that general election and shall hold the office  
7 until the general election four years later.

8 ~~D.]~~ C. Judges of the Bernalillo county  
9 metropolitan court for divisions thirteen, fourteen and  
10 fifteen shall be appointed and shall serve until the 1992  
11 general election. Their successors shall be chosen at that  
12 general election and shall hold office until the general  
13 election four years later. Additional judges shall be  
14 appointed and elected pursuant to Article 6 of the  
15 constitution of New Mexico. "

16 Section 2. Section 34-8A-8 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1979,  
17 Chapter 346, Section 8, as amended) is amended to read:

18 "34-8A-8. METROPOLITAN COURT--BERNALILLO DISTRICT.--

19 A. The name of the metropolitan court in the  
20 Bernalillo metropolitan district shall be the "Bernalillo  
21 county metropolitan court".

22 B. The metropolitan court is an agency of the  
23 judicial department of state government. Personnel of the  
24 metropolitan court are subject to all laws and regulations  
25 applicable to state officers and agencies and state officers

1 and employees, except where otherwise specifically provided by  
2 law.

3 C. There shall be sixteen judges of the Bernalillo  
4 county metropolitan court. "

5 Section 3. TEMPORARY PROVISION. --The additional judge  
6 provided for the Bernalillo county metropolitan court shall  
7 preside over the operation of a court that considers alleged  
8 municipal code violations.

9 Section 4. APPROPRIATION. --Two hundred thirty-five  
10 thousand dollars (\$235,000) is appropriated from the general  
11 fund to the Bernalillo county metropolitan court for  
12 expenditure in fiscal year 2000 for the purpose of paying  
13 salaries and benefits and providing furniture, equipment and  
14 supplies for an additional judge and support staff. Any  
15 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of  
16 fiscal year 2000 shall revert to the general fund.

17 Section 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. --The effective date of the  
18 provisions of this act is July 1, 1999.

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